## Message Text

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**ACTION EUR-12** 

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, PFOR, EEC

SUBJECT: TINDEMANS REPORT: COMMISSION PRESIDENT ORTOLI GIVES

INITIAL REACTION

**REF EC BRUSSELS 155** 

- 1. EC COMMISSION PRESIDENT ORTOLI GAVE A BRIEF "PERSONAL REACTION" TO THE TINDEMANS REPORT TO THE PRESS ON JAN 8. HE EMPHASIZED THAT HE WAS NOT YET IN A POSITION TO PRESENT THE COMMISSION'S OFFICIAL REACTION, BUT PROMISED THAT THE COMMISSION'S VIEWS WOULD BE FULLY SET FORTH IN THE NEAR FUTURE. (THE COMMISSION HAD A FIRST EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON THE REPORT ON JAN 7.)
- 2. WHILE NOT OPENLY CRITICIZING THE TINDEMANS REPORT, ORTOLI INDICATED THAT HE SAW SERIOUS PROBLEMS EMERGING FROM ANY "TWO-TIER" APPROACH TO ECONOMIC AND MONETARY UNION. HE DID NOT DETAIL THESE PROBLEMS DESPITE REPEATED QUESTIONS. HE DID SAY HE PREFERRED THE DEVELOPMENT OF COMMON POLICIES ALTHOUGH "THESE NEED NOT BE EXCLUSIVE OF NATIONAL, REGIONAL OR LOCAL MODULATIONS", AS HAD BEEN SUGGESTED IN THE COMMISSION'S SUBMISSION TO TINDEMANS.
- 3. ORTOLI SAID HE SUBSCRIBED TO THE IDEA OF THE REINFORCEMENT OF THE COMMUNITY'S INSTITUTIONS AS SUGGESTED BY THE TINDEMANS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REPORT BUT IT SHOULD NOT BE FORGOTTEN THAT PAST COMMUNITY

SUCCESSES HAD BEENDUE TO AN "INSTITUTIONAL EQUILIBRIUM" AND EFFORTS MUST BE MADE TO MAINTAIN THIS EQUILIBRIUM. SPECIFICALLY, HE QUESTIONED THE REPORT'S SUGGESTION THAT THE PARLIAMENT BE GIVEN THE POWER TO ADDRESS RESOLUTIONS TO THE COUNCIL FOR OBLIGATORY CONSIDERATION. HE NOTED THAT "THE COMMISSION'S RIGHT OF INITIATIVE IS AN ESSENTIAL ELEMENT IN INSTITUTIONAL EQUILIBRIUM."

4. EC COMMISSIONER BRUNNER GAVE AMBASSADOR GREENWALD AN INTERESTING INSIGHT INTO THE PREPARATION OF THE SEGMENT OF THE TINDEMANS REPORT DEALING WITH RESEARCH. BRUNNER SAID THAT DINDEMANS HAD CONFESSED HIS LACK OF KNOWLEDGE IN THE AREA OF RESEARCH AND HE HAD SENT A STAFF MEMBER TO TAKE EXTENSIVE NOTES WHILE THE COMMISSION STAFF DETAILED WHAT THEY WOULD LIKE TO SEE IN THE REPORT. AS A RESULT, BRUNNER SAID IT WAS NOT SURPRISING THAT HE WAS PLEASED WITH THE TINDEMANS EFFORT INSOFAR AS IT AFFECTED HIS AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY. GREENWALD

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